

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of copy-protecting a digital audio-visual signal, comprising:

encoding the digital audio-visual signal to obtain an encoded signal;

converting the encoded signal into a copy protected signal using a copy protection function that utilizes a copy protection data signal to prevent using the digital audio-visual signal without access to the copy protection data signal;

scrambling the copy protected signal to obtain a scrambled signal;

transmitting the scrambled signal and said copy protection data signal to a receiver as a single signal for subsequent recovery of said digital audio-visual signal;

employing a processor for:

recovering said scrambled signal from the single signal;

descrambling the recovered scrambled signal to regain said copy protected signal;

reconverting the regained copy protected signal back into said encoded signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes copy protection data represented by the copy protection data signal.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting further comprises combining the scrambled signal and said copy protection_data signal into said single signal.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving said single signal in a receiver;
removing said copy protection data signal from the single signal, and storing the copy protection data represented by the copy protection data signal in a memory device;
and
decoding the encoded signal obtained by the reconverting of the regained copy protected signal to recover said digital audio-visual signal.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
descrambling the scrambled signal to recover said copy protected signal;
reconverting the recovered copy protected signal back into said encoded signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes the copy protection data from said copy protection data signal; and
decoding the converted encoded signal to recover said digital audio-visual_signal.

Claim 7 (previously presented): A method of recovering an audio-visual signal from a digital signal including a scrambled signal and a copy protection data signal representing copy protection data, comprising the steps of:
(a) extracting said data signal from the digital signal;

- (b) storing the copy protection data from said copy protection data signal in a memory device;
- (c) extracting the scrambled signal from the digital signal;
- (d) descrambling the scrambled signal to recover a copy protected signal;
- (e) reconverting the copy protected signal into an encoded signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes said stored copy protection data; and
- (f) decoding the encoded signal to recover said audio-visual signal,
wherein the copy protected signal prevents use of the audio-visual signal without access to the copy protection data.

Claim 8 (previously presented): A system for copy-protecting a digital audio-visual signal, comprising:

- an encoder configured to encode the digital audio-visual signal to obtain an encoded signal;
- a converter configured to convert the encoded signal into a copy protected signal using a computer program product comprising a computer usable medium for copy protection including a computer readable program, wherein the computer readable program when executed on a computer causes the computer to: use a copy protection data signal representing copy protection data to prevent using the digital audio-visual signal without access to the copy protection data;
- a scrambler configured to scramble the copy protected signal into a scrambled signal;

a transmitter configured to transmit the scrambled signal and the copy protection data signal as a single signal to a receiver for subsequent recovery of said digital audio-visual signal;

a processor including a computer program product comprising a computer usable medium including a computer readable program, wherein the computer readable program when executed on the processor causes the processor to:

recover said scrambled signal from the single signal;

a descrambler configured to descramble the recovered scrambled signal to regain said copy protected signal; and

a reconverter configured to convert the regained copy protected signal back into said encoded signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes said stored copy protection data.

Claim 9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (previously presented): The system of claim 8, further comprising a combiner for combining the scrambled signal and said data signal into said single signal, wherein the transmitter transmits said single signal to the receiver.

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (previously presented): The system of claim 8, further comprising:
a receiver configured to receive said single signal in a receiver;

the computer readable program

a decoder configured to decode the encoded signal to recover said digital audio-visual signal,

wherein the processor further causes the processor to: remove said copy protection data signal from the single signal, and store the copy protection data in a memory device.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The system of claim 8, further comprising:

the descrambler further configured to descramble the scrambled signal to recover said copy protected signal;

the reconverter further configured to convert the recovered copy protected signal back into said encoded signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes the copy protection data; and

a decoder configured to decode the converted encoded signal to recover said digital audio-visual signal.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A system for recovering an audio-visual signal from a digital signal including a scrambled signal and a copy protection data signal representing copy protection data, the system comprising:

(a) a processor for: (1) removing said copy protection data signal from the digital signal, and storing the copy protection data in a memory device, and (2) recovering said scrambled signal from the digital signal;

(b) a descrambler for descrambling the recovered scrambled signal to recover a copy protected signal;

(c) a reconverter for converting the recovered copy protected signal back into said encoded signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes said stored copy protection data; and

(d) a decoder for decoding the encoded signal to recover said audio-visual signal, wherein the copy protected signal prevents use of the audio-visual signal without access to the copy protection data.

Claims 15-43 (canceled)

Claim 44 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the copy protected signal cannot be useably viewed, displayed, copied or recorded without access to the copy protection data.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The method of claim 7, wherein the copy protected signal cannot be useably viewed, displayed, copied or recorded without access to the copy protection data.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the copy protected signal cannot be useably viewed, displayed, copied or recorded without access to the copy protection data.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The system of claim 14, wherein the copy protected signal cannot be useably viewed, displayed, copied or recorded without access to the copy protection data.

Claim 48 (previously presented): A system for recovering an audio-visual signal from a single digital signal including a scrambled signal and a copy protection data signal representing copy protection data, the system comprising:

a processor configured to:

separate said copy protection data signal and said scrambled signal from the digital signal;

store copy protection data in a memory;

descramble the separated scrambled signal to recover a copy protected signal; and

reconvert the recovered copy protected signal back into an encoded signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes said stored copy protection data; and

decode the encoded signal to recover said audio-visual signal, wherein the copy protected signal prevents use of the audio-visual signal without access to the copy protection data.